

Virtual volunteering:

10 ways to give back to your community

Now more than ever, it's important to find ways to support and uplift the people around us. The good news? When it comes to helping others, you don't have to look far for inspiration, because even the smallest actions can make a big difference! And you can do it while respecting physical distancing!



1 Start an online reading club

Connect with teachers and classmates to start a reading club that younger students can take part in too. Older students can partner with younger ones to practice reading via video chat. Or take turns hosting a "virtual story time" to read to a younger class.



3 Check on your neighbours

Call or leave a note in the mailbox of neighbours who are elderly, have disabilities or might otherwise need help: for example, by dropping off groceries. Encourage friends to do the same by sharing what you did online (but be careful not to share your address or phone number).



2 Spread joy and gratitude

Thank essential service workers and uplift people in your neighbourhood by writing positive messages with chalk on your driveway or hanging a poster in your window. Share photos of what you did online and challenge your friends to spread joy at home too!



4 Connect with a food bank

Start a virtual food drive with your friends! Call or email a local food bank or shelter to see what items they need most, then create a poster people can share on social media to spread the word. Encourage others to donate if they can to help families facing food insecurity.



5 Start a tutoring network

Connect with classmates and friends to start a tutoring group for younger students at your school to help them with their schoolwork.



6 Clean house for a cause

Collect items your family no longer uses, like outgrown clothes and toys, and put them aside to donate to a local shelter or service organization. Share what you collected online and tag five friends to do the same.



7 Spread positivity online

Help fill people's newsfeeds with something that makes them smile. Share inspiring quotes and photos on social media, or repost positive news stories.



8 Share your skills

What's something you're good at? Whether it's drawing, yoga or speaking a second language, invite friends to join you for a video chat to teach them something new. You can even connect with your school to see if there's something you can help teach to younger students.



9 Craft for good

Get a group of friends together to learn how to make a craft, like knitted scarves, that you can donate to a shelter during their next winter clothing drive. If someone is good at knitting, they can teach everyone, or you can find instructions online to follow together.



10 Surprise a family member

Find opportunities to show your family a little kindness: Do a load of laundry or offer to cook dinner one night with your siblings.

How are you taking action to help others? Share your actions and ideas on social media—and don't forget to hashtag #WEVolunteerNow!

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